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Mr. Thomas Kalitowski, Executive Director
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
520 Lafayette Road
St. Paul, MN 55155

Program
Support Section

EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.



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Dear Mr. Kalitowski:

I am writing this letter on behalf of the Lake Frances-Tetonka Oversight committee to express the committee's concern over the existence of a suspected hazardous waste site near the town of Elysian in Le Sueur County, Minnesota. Before proceeding any further, perhaps I should explain how this committee came into being and the specific reasons we're concerned about this dump site.

Our committee was created by the Le Sueur County District Court in May of 1986 to resolve some technical issues related to the installation of an outlet culvert for Lake Frances. The committee is comprised of representatives from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA), Le Sueur County, the Lake Frances Association and the Lake Tetonka Association. The MDNR representative is also assigned to chair the committee. The specific task of the committee is to determine if water flowing out of Lake Frances will adversely impact Lake Tetonka, either by increasing nutrient loading or by mobilizing hazardous substances in the Elysian dump site and transporting them downstream into Lake Tetonka.

The committee has resolved the nutrient loading question to its satisfaction, and must now reach agreement on the possibility of Lake Tetonka suffering increased pollution from the dump site as a result of the Lake Frances culvert installation. At this time, therefore, the highest priority of this committee is to find out if the Elysian dump site contains significant quantities of hazardous substances likely to affect water quality downstream and in Lake Tetonka.

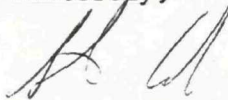
The MPCA was first notified of the possible existence of hazardous substances in this dump site in May 1986. At that time various hazardous substances, including waste oil, batteries, arsenic, mercury, 2,4-D and 2,4,5-T were alleged to have been dumped there. In January of 1987, Shawn Ruotsinoja of MPCA conducted a preliminary assessment of the site. He assigned a "medium" priority to this site and referred it to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for further action.

The understanding of this committee is that the EPA will prioritize this site and hire a contractor to conduct an inspection at some time in the future. We also understand that any action regarding clean-up of the site will be dependent upon the results of this inspection.

Thomas Kalitowski
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The purpose of this letter is to request both the EPA and MPCA to expedite this inspection process. Our committee is very concerned about the potential for pollution of Lake Tetonka, the wildlife area immediately downstream of the dump, and the health and well-being of the residents of this area. Your prompt consideration of this matter is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,



Steven Colvin
Oversight Committee Chairman

SC:ds

cc: Dr. Don Joseph, V.S.E.P.A.

Hon. John Schmidt
S. Heiskary, MPCA
R. Casey, LeSueur County
B. Smith, LeSueur County
H. Quade, L. Tetonka Assoc.
B. Roettger, L. Frances Assoc.
O. Linstrom, L. Tetonka Assoc.